

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed March 28, 2008, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7 remain in the Application, where claims 4-7 have been added and claim 1 is independent.

By means of the present amendment, claims 2-3 have been amended for non-statutory reasons, such as for better form including beginning the dependent claims with 'The' instead of 'A', changing "characterized in that" to --wherein--. Such amendments to claims 2-3 were not made in order to address issues of patentability and Applicant respectfully reserves all rights under the Doctrine of Equivalents.

In the Final Office Action, claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,568,083 (Taniguchi). Further, claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Taniguchi in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,855,697 (Meyer). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-7 are patentable over Taniguchi and Meyer for at

least the following reasons.

Taniguchi is directed to a dry shaver capable of being depressed equally at different positions but with differing contact pressures between outer and inner cutters which appear to be driven. The shaver has a housing that includes a motor, and inner and outer cutters at its upper end. The inner cutter is driven by the motor to move in shearing engagement with the outer cutter for shaving hairs. The inner cutter is urged upwardly by a bias spring to develop a contact pressure against the outer cutter.

Meyer is directed to a shaving head for a dry shaving apparatus having two reciprocable cutters associated with a shaving section and at least one trimmer. The two reciprocable cutters are coupled to a drive system.

It is respectfully submitted that Taniguchi, Meyer, and combinations thereof, do not teach or suggest the present invention as recited in independent claim 1 which, amongst other patentable features, recites (illustrative emphasis provided):

long-hair cutting device projecting out of the housing through the passage and comprising a first long-hair cutting tool which is not drivable by the motor and the driving means and a second long-hair cutting tool drivable by the motor and the driving means and located between the first long-hair cutting tool and the short-

hair cutting tool.

A second drivable long-hair cutting tool located between the non-drivable first long-hair cutting tool and the short-hair cutting tool are nowhere disclosed or suggested in Taniguchi and Meyer, alone or in combination. Rather, Taniguchi merely discloses an inner cutter that is driven.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 1 should be allowable. In addition, claims 2-7 should be allowable at least based on their dependence from independent claim 1.

In addition, Applicant denies any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicant reserves the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

It is believed that no additional fees or charges are currently due beyond the fee for filing a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) to be charged to the credit card as noted by the

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enclosed authorization. However, in the event that any additional fees or charges are required for entrance of the accompanying amendment, they may be charged to Applicant's representatives Deposit Account No. 50-3649. In addition, please credit any overpayments related to any fees paid in connection with the accompanying amendment to Deposit Account No. 50-3649.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Dicran Halajian, Reg. 39,703
Attorney for Applicant(s)
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THORNE & HALAJIAN, LLP
Applied Technology Center
111 West Main Street
Bay Shore, NY 11706
Tel: (631) 665-5139
Fax: (631) 665-5101